

associations to estimate the demand for building materials and to schedule production, distribution, and sales efforts. They also provide various governmental agencies with a tool to evaluate economic policy and to measure progress towards established goals. For example, Bureau of Economic Analysis staff use data to develop the construction components of gross private domestic investment in the gross domestic product. The Federal Reserve Board and the Department of Treasury use the value in place data to predict the gross domestic product, which is presented to the Board of Governors and has an impact on monetary policy.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households, Businesses or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions, and State, local or tribal government.

**Frequency:** Monthly.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

**Legal Authority:** 13 USC, Section 182.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395-7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5312, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 11, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 98-4099 Filed 2-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). This collection has been submitted under the emergency Paperwork Reduction Act procedures.

**Agency:** National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

**Title:** Provisional Listing of Facilities and Registrars.

**Agency Form Number:** None.

**OMB Approval Number:** None.

**Type of Request:** New Collection—Emergency Review.

**Burden:** 200 reporting/recordkeeping hours.

**Number of Respondents:** 50.

**Avg. Hours Per Response:** 3 hours for reporting requirements; one hour for recordkeeping.

**Needs and Uses:** NIST has determined that the implementation of the Fastener Quality Act (FQA) may cause undue burden on the industry or force NIST to postpone the implementation date. The fastener industry affected by this collection of information uses a quality assurance system of manufacturing that has to be registered through NIST-approved accreditors for FQA.

Because the registration cannot be accomplished before the implementation date, NIST has developed an alternative approach. NIST will be collecting information from persons seeking provisional listing. The information obtained will provide assurance that applicant organizations comply with the Act during the one-year provisional listing period.

**Affected Public:** Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Required to obtain a benefit.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Maya Bernstein, (202) 395-3785.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to Maya Bernstein, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503. A clearance has been requested by Tuesday, February 24, 1998.

Dated: February 12, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### The American Community Survey (ACS)

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(C)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before April 20, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Englemeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Cynthia Taeuber, Bureau of the Census, Demographic Statistical Methods Division, Washington, DC 20233. Her telephone number is (301) 457-2899.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The American Community Survey (ACS), which the Census Bureau initiated in November 1995 with the demonstration phase, is a continuing full-scale operation of a continuous measurement system. Continuous measurement is a reengineering of the method for collecting the housing and socio-economic data traditionally collected in the decennial census. It provides data every year instead of once in ten years. It blends the strength of small-area estimation from the census with the quality and timeliness of the continuing surveys through a large monthly survey.

The Census Bureau began the ACS in four sites, added new sites each of the last two years, and now presently conducts the ACS in ten sites.

Starting in November 1998, the Census Bureau plans to introduce the comparison phase of the continuous measurement system. The Census Bureau plans to conduct the ACS in 37 sites, which include 46 counties or county equivalents, across the country. This three-year period of data collection will allow the Census Bureau to make direct comparisons between the ACS and the Census 2000 long form. In November 1998, the Census Bureau also plans to add eight additional sites (ten counties or county equivalents) to balance the workload among the regional offices, and to give field staff experience in preparation for an